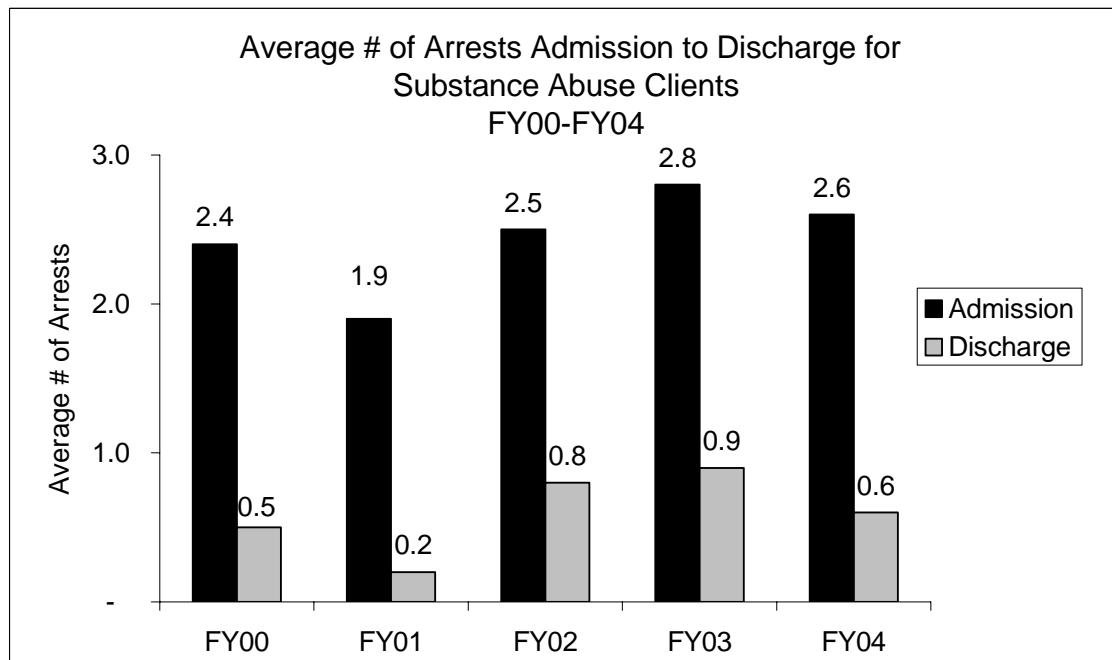


AVERAGE NUMBER OF ARRESTS FROM ADMISSION TO DISCHARGE FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSE CLIENTS

Source: Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health



Definition: Research initiated by the Utah Department of Corrections indicates that 80% of inmates, parolees, and probationers abuse drugs and/or alcohol. When offenders do not succeed in the community, statistics show substance abuse significantly contributed to their failure. For this reason, the Division closely monitors clients' involvement with the criminal justice system, including the number of times a client has been arrested in the six months prior to being admitted to treatment as well as the number of arrests that occurred between admission and discharge.

Analysis: Data collected by the Division indicates that the average number of times clients are arrested significantly decreases after they enter substance abuse treatment. During the six months prior to being admitted to treatment services, patients who had been arrested had, on average, been arrested 2.6 times. Upon assessment at discharge, we found that very few of those patients had been arrested after they entered treatment. In fact, in FY04,

the average number of crimes committed by substance abuse clients decreased by 77% between admission to treatment and discharge. This reduction is an improvement over last year. By reducing the number of times clients are arrested, not only is the Division reducing the financial costs that are associated with the arrest and possible incarceration, but it is also reducing the impact that crime has on Utah communities.

Future Actions: At the state and local levels, the Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health and the Local Substance Abuse Authorities continue to work with law enforcement to determine which offenders are in need of treatment services and to coordinate the provision of those services.